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(Text of address made by Judge Sarah T. Hughes, judge of the Fourteenth District Court, Dallas, Texas and national president of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., delivered yesterday (Sunday, May 18) at the Hall of Fame ceremonies unveiling the busts of Susan B. Anthony and Thomas Paine on the New York University campus.)

In the long struggle for freedom and liberty Susan B. Anthony played a major role. Women were her concern and her life was devoted to emancipating them from laws and customs that kept them from the development of their full capacities.

At the time she lived and worked women were just beginning to rebel against the tradition that their only place was in the home. At that time they could not hold public office, vote, or serve on the jury. They were denied professional training and admission to most colleges. Their opportunities to earn a living were limited, prejudice keeping them almost exclusively

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in low paid employment. Married women lacked control over their property and earnings, and equal rights to custody of their children.

Susan B. Anthony was not satisfied with this inferior status. She believed in women and earnestly desired for them equality of opportunity - a sharing of responsibility - the perfect comradeship with men, not only at the fireside, but in the council of nations. With a burning zeal she devoted her talents to the attainment of her objective - organizing campaigns, speaking what she thought, appearing before legislative bodies, seeking to inspire others with her vision of freedom for women. At 86 she died without seeing the realization of her dreams, but to the end her spirit remained undaunted. Failure was impossible and her last speech was an impassioned appeal to others to carry on her work.

Thirteen years after her death, in 1919, a small group of business and professional women, with some of the vision of Susan B. Anthony, determined to unite in order to work more effectively toward widening horizons for women. Their first thought was to organize and so they did into the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. The call for the organization meeting declared that it was "to arouse all business and professional women to a feeling of their own solidarity and importance." "Only as we solve our own problems," it continued, "can we measure up to the challenge of the new day." The first purpose of the new federation was declared to be "to promote the interests of women."

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Shortly after its organization the 19th amendment was adopted giving women the right to vote, but this did not automatically make them citizens. There was still much to be done before women could measure up to the challenge of the new day.

Through the years the National Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs has held to its objective to promote the interest of women and to make them full citizens.

The Federation has supported jury service for women, granting them citizenship status, independent of their husbands, and the removal of all bars to control of their property and to equal rights in the custody of their children. Since 1937 they have advocated an equal rights amendment which if adopted would end all legal discriminations.

Realizing that the right to work is vital to the interests of women, the federation has strongly advocated increasing the opportunities of women to serve in any capacity and has strenuously opposed limitations and discriminations, particularly as applied to married women, on the right to work.

Women have been urged to use the powers they have and assume their duties of citizenship by actively participating in the party of their choice, by voting and running for public office. The policy of supporting women for public office began in 1942 and in this regard the federation has continued to step up its advocacy of women, particularly on the local level.

The members of the Business & Professional Women's Clubs earnestly believe that the problems that ~~face~~ the world today can only be solved by the use of all our resources. This means

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men and women working together in full partnership for the job ahead. Our objective now in promoting the interests of women is to make them partners - not alone with equality of rights - but of responsibilities as well, in order that they too may bear their full share of the work to be done.

This was Susan B. Anthony's goal - perfect comradeship - the same rights and the same responsibilities in the home and in the council of nations. She laid the groundwork - built the foundation - gave inspiration for us to go on.

To her we owe a debt of gratitude. In return she would ask only that we carry on in the world struggle for human freedom and so we have.

But as a tangible acknowledgement of our debt and of our deep feeling of admiration and affection the National Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs endorsed Susan B. Anthony for the Hall of Fame at its 1950 convention and urged her favorable consideration by the electors.

After her election we were honored by being asked to undertake the financing of the bronzes to be placed in the Hall of Fame. Here was an opportunity for women to unite in showing their appreciation of this great woman. An appeal was sent to all our clubs asking for contributions - small ones in order that there might be many. They have come from all over the nation - from every state in the Union, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, and Alaska.

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In this presentation today the members of the National Federation of Business & Professional Women can feel that they have had a small part in the greatness that is Susan B. Anthony. Only, however, as we carry on with courage, with determination, and a burning zeal for our cause will we be worthy of the faith she had in women and their contribution to human welfare.

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